

Senate Republican Policy Office

A Look Ahead

Policy Committee Summary Report

Week of August 7, 2000

This report details selected significant Senate legislative activity anticipated next week. It includes information current as of Thursday, August 3, 2000. Please refer general questions on this report to Cynthia Bryant, Senate Republican Policy Staff Director, at 323-8892.

Agriculture & Water Resources

*Consultant: Edi Thompson
(Agriculture), 445-8873
Lisa Ryan (Water Resources), 324-5525*
Tuesday, August 8
9:30 a.m., Room 2040 (note room change)

AB 1219 (Kuehl)—Prohibits any local agency from approving a residential development unless the local agency finds that a sufficient and reliable water supply is available.

The committee will also hear four flood control measures: AB 372 (Havice), AB 1147 (Honda), AB 2002 (Steinberg), and AB 2577 (Dickerson).

Business & Professions

Consultant: Richard Paul, 324-5526
Monday, August 7
1:30 p.m., Room 2040 (note room change)

AB 2842 (Calderon)—Addresses the shortage of veterinarians by requiring

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Floor Session

Monday, August 7, 1:30 p.m.

Tuesday, August 8, Check-In

Wednesday, August 9, Check-In

Thursday, August 10, 8:30 a.m.

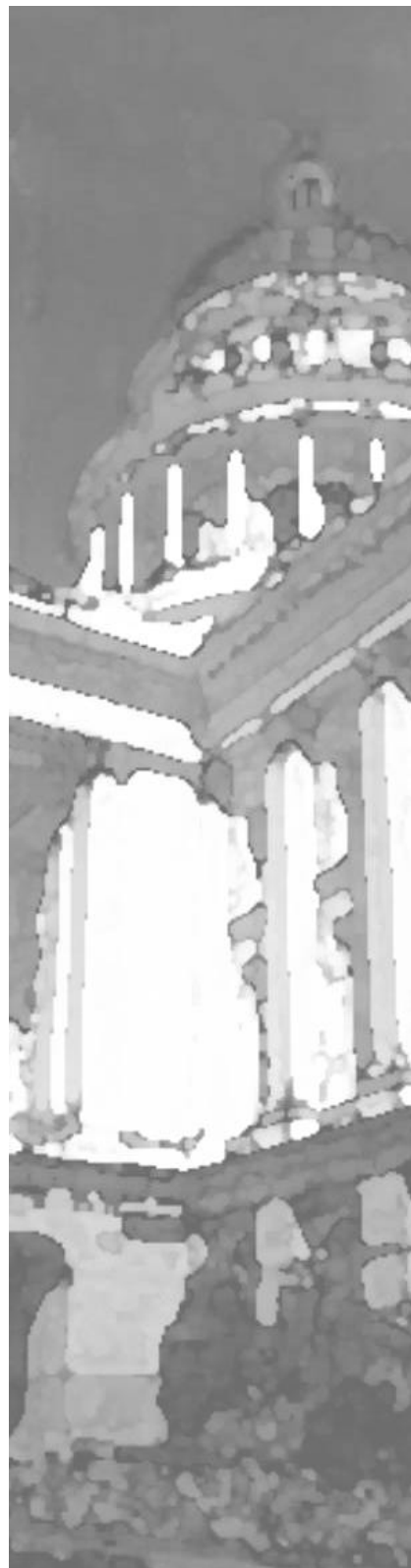
the Veterinary Medical Board to recognize colleges accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association, the Mexican National Council for Veterinary Education, and the Pan American Council for Veterinary Education.

AB 2370 (Honda)—Requires home improvement contractor licensees to submit to federal criminal background checks as a condition of licensure. Permits the denial of licensure on these grounds. Only the company owners and partners would be required to be fingerprinted, not the employees working on each job site.

Education

Consultant: Kerri Ruzicka, 323-8890
Wednesday, August 9
9:30 a.m., Room 4203

AB 1935 (Wildman)—Requires employees of all foundations, extension operations, or other organizational entities controlled by the Trustees of the California State University to pay fair share service fees to the union. Treats these employees as if they were already union members by placing them with



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SENATOR JAMES L. BRULTE
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bargaining units without providing them the opportunity to even vote on whether they want a union.

Elections & Reapportionment

Consultant: Cynthia Bryant, 323-8892
Wednesday, August 9
9:30 a.m., Room 3191

AB 1183 (Frusetta)—Requires the Secretary of State to develop a free Internet-based interactive filing system for electronic filing for on-line disclosure.

AB 2519 (Shelley)—Establishes a 3-year Internet Voting Pilot Project, under the direction of the Secretary of State. Up to 3 counties may participate. Applies only to local elections.

Energy, Utilities & Commerce

Consultant: Ray Thompson, 324-5233
Tuesday, August 8
1:30 p.m., Room 112

AB 2638 (Calderon)—Imposes requirements on irrigation districts to prevent their “cherry picking” of electric utility customers, to encourage them to provide universal service, to promote system reliability, and to follow environmental processes similar to electric utilities.

Environmental Quality

Consultant: Edi Thompson, 445-8703.
Monday, August 7
1:30 p.m., Room 112

AB 2544 (Calderon)—Makes substantive changes to San Gabriel Valley Water Authority law. San Gabriel Basin water issues are always contentious and complicated. One of two bills on Environmental Quality Committee agenda on August 7 sponsored by private, investor-owned

water companies that deal with controversial issues.

AB 2646 (Calderon)—Grants to public water systems and private, for-profit water companies the same cost recovery authority, including liens, that currently are exercised by regional water boards. The bill contains provisions restricting use of treated groundwater that cause concerns for existing groundwater cleanup operations. As with AB 2544, this is sponsored by private, investor-owned water companies in Southern California.

Finance, Investment & International Trade

Consultant: Jim Gentry, 445-4264
Wednesday, August 9
2:00 p.m., Room 3191 (note time change)

AB 143 (Calderon) & AB 2420 (Firebaugh)—Impose greater restrictions on money transmitters and require the posting of the rate of exchange at organizations that transmit money abroad and that the rate of exchange may not include fees and commissions.

AB 244 (Ackerman)—Exempts a class of money lenders from California’s usury law in order to assist small and start-up corporations to receive short-term capital and “bridge” loans. This bill is sponsored by the California Bar Association, Business Law Section.

Governmental Organization

Consultant: Richard Paul, 324-5526
Tuesday, August 8
9:30 a.m., Room 3191

AB 2520 (Thomson)—Permits holders of winegrowers licenses to sell their own wines at farmers’ markets, under a special \$40 permit issued by the

Department of Alcohol Beverage Control. These annual permits would be valid at one farmers’ market only, so winemakers would have to obtain multiple permits to sell their products at several different markets.

Health & Human Services

Consultants: Cynthia Bryant (Human Services), 323-8892
Dan Chick (Health), 324-5509
Wednesday, August 9
1:30 p.m., Room 4203

AB 2018 (Thomson)—Requires the Attorney General to decide by 2003 which system the state should use to track highly addictive prescription drugs known as schedule III drugs. The Attorney General would have to decide between the continued use of Triplicate prescription method or the computerized CURES tracking system. This bill will be considered for “Vote Only.”

AB 2714 (Wesson)—Allows continued collection of blood platelets, a vital blood product, using a paid donor base, as opposed to solely volunteer donors. This bill will be considered for “Vote Only.”

Housing & Community Development

Consultant: Stan Neal, 323-8898
Monday, August 7
Upon adjournment of session, Room 3191

AB 2041 (Dutra)—Allows contiguous redevelopment agencies, located within a single Metropolitan Statistical Area, to establish a joint powers authority to pool low- and moderate-income housing funds.

Industrial Relations

Consultant: Lisa Ryan 324-5525
Wednesday, August 9
9:30 p.m., Room 2040

AB 1844 (Washington)—Creates an automatic entitlement for women to a 10-week maternity disability benefit under the State Disability Insurance program. The bill also provides that all ten weeks of disability benefit must be granted after the birth of the child.

Insurance

Consultant: Dan Chick, 324-5509
Wednesday, August 9
9:00 a.m., Room 112

No significant legislation

Judiciary

Consultant Mike Peterson, 324-5532
Tuesday, August 8
1:00 p.m., Room 4203 (note time change)

AB 2222 (Keuhl)—Makes California law more expansive and stricter than the federal Americans with Disabilities Act. It is likely to result in more lawsuits and higher costs for compliance for California businesses and governments with little identifiable benefit to any one except trial lawyers.

AB 860 (Keuhl)—Allows cities to reinstitute rent control. In 1995, the Legislature eliminated most forms of rent control.

Local Government

Consultant: Tom Hudson 322-6670
Wednesday, August 9
9:30 p.m., Room 3191 (note room change)

No significant legislation

Natural Resources & Wildlife

Consultant: Lisa Ryan, 324-5525
Tuesday, August 8
9:30 a.m., Room 112

AB 2254 (Gallegos)—Restructures the composition of the State Mining and Geology Board to prohibit more than 1/3 of the members of the State Mining and Geology Board from being currently employed by, or receiving compensation from, entities that own or operate mines.

AB 2800 (Shelley)—Establishes the Marine Managed Areas Improvement Act, prescribing 6 classifications for designating managed areas in the marine and estuarine environments to ensure the long-term ecological viability and biological productivity of marine ecosystems.

Public Employment & Retirement

Consultant: Jim Gentry, 445-4264
Monday, August 7
1:30 p.m., Room 113 (note room change)

No significant legislature

Public Safety

Consultant: David Quintana, 445-3688
Tuesday, August 8
9:30 a.m., Room 4203

Revenue & Taxation

Consultant: Ray Thompson, 324-5233
Wednesday, August 9
1:30 p.m., Room 2040

AB 2001 (Longville)—Establishes the California Spaceport Development Zone Act of 2000 to promote the development of a commercial space transportation system in the State by providing development authority and economic (tax) incentives for developing the zones; requires the Trade

and Commerce Agency to designate zones for the operation of launch or re-entry sites.

Transportation

Consultant: Stan Neal, 323-8898
Tuesday, August 8
1:30 p.m., Room 3191 (note room change)

AB 1463 (Cedillo)—Makes it easier for illegal immigrants to obtain a drivers license by eliminating the requirement to demonstrate proof of residence or present a valid social security card.

AB 2275 (Correa)—Allows Caltrans to take quality control responsibility away from private sector contractors and give it to state employees.